

**OPINION 1993 (Case 2980)*****Procoptodon* Owen, 1874 (Mammalia, Marsupialia) and the specific names of *P. rapha* Owen, 1874 and *P. pusio* Owen, 1874: conserved**

**Keywords.** Nomenclature; taxonomy; Marsupialia; MACROPODIDAE; *Procoptodon*; *Procoptodon rapha*; *Procoptodon pusio*; *Halmaturotherium*; *Halmatutherium*; kangaroos; Pleistocene; Australia.

**Ruling**

- (1) Under the plenary power the following names are hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy:
  - (a) the generic names:
    - (i) *Halmaturotherium* Krefft, 1872;
    - (ii) *Halmatutherium* Krefft, 1873;
  - (b) the specific names:
    - (i) *scottii* Krefft, 1870, as published in the binomen *Halmaturus scottii*;
    - (ii) *thomsonii* Krefft, 1870, as published in the binomen *Halmaturus thomsonii*.
- (2) The name *Procoptodon* Owen, 1874 (gender: masculine), type species by original designation *Macropus goliah* Owen in Waterhouse, 1846, is hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology.
- (3) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
  - (a) *goliah* Owen in Waterhouse, 1846, as published in the binomen *Macropus goliah* (specific name of the type species of *Procoptodon* Owen, 1874);
  - (b) *rapha* Owen, 1874, as published in the binomen *Procoptodon rapha*;
  - (c) *pusio* Owen, 1874, as published in the binomen *Procoptodon pusio*.
- (4) The following names are hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology:
  - (a) *Halmaturotherium* Krefft, 1872, as suppressed in (1)(a)(i) above;
  - (b) *Halmatutherium* Krefft, 1873, as suppressed in (1)(a)(ii) above.
- (5) The following names are hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology:
  - (a) *scottii* Krefft, 1870, as published in the binomen *Halmaturus scottii* and as suppressed in (1)(b)(i) above;
  - (b) *thomsonii* Krefft, 1870, as published in the binomen *Halmaturus thomsonii* and as suppressed in (1)(b)(ii) above.

**History of Case 2980**

An application for the conservation of *Procoptodon* Owen, 1874, *P. rapha* Owen, 1874 and *P. pusio* Owen, 1874 was received from Dr Angela C. Davis and Prof W.D.L. Ride (*Australian National University, Canberra, Australia*) on 21 April 1995. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 57: 103–107 (June 2000). Notice of the case was sent to appropriate journals.

### Decision of the Commission

On 1 September 2001 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 57: 105–106. At the close of the voting period on 1 December 2001 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes — 24: Alonso-Zarazaga, Bock, Böhme, Bouchet, Brothers, Calder, Eschmeyer, Evenhuis, Fortey, Halliday, Kraus, Lamas, Macpherson, Mahnert, Martins de Souza, Mawatari, Minelli, Ng, Nielsen, Papp, Patterson, Rosenberg, Štys, van Tol

Negative votes — 1: Cogger.

No votes were received from Dupuis, Kerzhner and Song.

Voting against, Cogger commented: 'While I would certainly favour priority being given to the junior Owen names in prevailing use over the senior Krefft names whenever an author considers them to be synonyms, the subjectivity of the synonymy would make me unwilling to permanently suppress the senior names which may well be found, in future studies, to represent distinct taxa'.

### Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on Official Lists and Official Indexes by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

*golia*, *Macropus*, Owen in Waterhouse, 1846, *A natural history of the Mammalia*. Vol. 1, p. 59.  
*Halmaturotherium* Krefft, 1872, *The Sydney Mail and New South Wales Advertiser*, no. 637, vol. 14, p. 327.

*Halmatutherium* Krefft, 1873, *The Sydney Mail and New South Wales Advertiser*, no. 686, vol. 16, p. 238.

*Procoptodon* Owen, 1874, *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London*, 164: 786.  
*pusio*, *Procoptodon*, Owen, 1874, *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London*, 164: 788.

*rapha*, *Procoptodon*, Owen, 1874, *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London*, 164: 788.

*scottii*, *Halmaturus*, Krefft, 1870, *New South Wales Parliamentary Paper. Wellington Caves (Correspondence relative to exploration of)*, p. 9.

*thomsonii*, *Halmaturus*, Krefft, 1870, *New South Wales Parliamentary Paper. Wellington Caves (Correspondence relative to exploration of)*, p. 9.